

# Senate Study Bill 3067 - Introduced

SENATE FILE \_\_\_\_\_  
BY (PROPOSED COMMITTEE  
ON EDUCATION BILL BY  
CHAIRPERSON SINCLAIR)

## A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to education, including eligibility for grants  
2 under the teach Iowa scholar program, licenses issued by the  
3 board of educational examiners, and the use of revenues from  
4 the district management levy, and including applicability  
5 provisions.  
6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 261.110, subsection 3, Code 2022, is  
2 amended by adding the following new paragraph:

3 NEW PARAGRAPH. *d.* The total value of grants awarded under  
4 this section each year to applicants who are preparing to teach  
5 in a school district shall be as follows:

6 (1) Fifty percent shall be awarded to applicants preparing  
7 to teach in a school district with less than or equal to  
8 one thousand students. However, if the amount requested by  
9 applicants pursuant to subparagraph (2) is less than the amount  
10 reserved for applicants under subparagraph (2), the commission  
11 may award the difference to applicants under this subparagraph.

12 (2) Fifty percent shall be awarded to applicants preparing  
13 to teach in a school district with greater than one thousand  
14 students. However, if the amount requested by applicants  
15 pursuant to subparagraph (1) is less than the amount reserved  
16 for applicants under subparagraph (1), the commission may award  
17 the difference to applicants under this subparagraph.

18 Sec. 2. Section 272.2, subsection 1, Code 2022, is amended  
19 by adding the following new paragraph:

20 NEW PARAGRAPH. *d.* Rules adopted pursuant to this subsection  
21 establishing criteria for applicants for licenses who have  
22 completed a teacher preparation program outside of the state  
23 and who are applying for the applicant's first Iowa teaching  
24 license shall not require the applicant to be an Iowa resident  
25 if the applicant provides the board with a copy of an offer of  
26 employment as a teacher from a school located in this state.

27 Sec. 3. Section 272.2, subsection 13, Code 2022, is amended  
28 to read as follows:

29 13. Adopt rules to provide for nontraditional preparation  
30 options for licensing persons who hold a bachelor's degree from  
31 an accredited college or university, who do not meet other  
32 requirements for licensure. The rules shall, at a minimum,  
33 require the board to do all of the following:

34 a. Issue a teacher intern license for instruction in grades  
35 six through twelve to a qualified applicant while the applicant

1 concurrently completes the additional educational requirements  
2 provided in paragraph "b". A qualified applicant must meet all  
3 of the following requirements:

4 (1) The applicant must have graduated from an accredited  
5 college or university with a cumulative grade point average  
6 of two and three quarters on a four-point scale, or its  
7 equivalent, as determined by the accredited college or  
8 university.

9 (2) The applicant must have at least three years of post-  
10 baccalaureate work experience.

11 (3) The applicant must submit with the application a copy of  
12 an offer of employment from a school.

13 b. Require an applicant who has been granted a teacher  
14 intern license pursuant to paragraph "a" to meet all of the  
15 following requirements prior to applying for an initial  
16 teaching license:

17 (1) The licensee must work under the supervision of a  
18 teacher coach or a mentor assigned by the school district or  
19 accredited nonpublic school.

20 (2) The licensee must complete at least fifteen additional  
21 hours of in-person coursework, including pedagogy training.

22 c. Allow a licensee who has completed the requirements  
23 provided in paragraph "b" to apply for an initial teaching  
24 license if the school that employed the licensee under  
25 paragraph "b" recommends that the licensee be allowed to apply  
26 for an initial teaching license.

27 Sec. 4. Section 272.2, Code 2022, is amended by adding the  
28 following new subsection:

29 NEW SUBSECTION. 27. Adopt rules pursuant to chapter  
30 17A that allow an individual seeking a career and technical  
31 secondary authorization to apply, and if eligible, be issued  
32 the secondary authorization prior to accepting an offer of  
33 employment with a school.

34 Sec. 5. Section 279.46, Code 2022, is amended to read as  
35 follows:

1     **279.46 Retirement incentives and teacher student loan**  
2 **forgiveness — tax.**

3     1. The board of directors of a school district may adopt  
4 a program for payment of a monetary bonus, continuation of  
5 health or medical insurance coverage, or other incentives  
6 for encouraging its employees to retire before the normal  
7 retirement date as defined in [chapter 97B](#). The program is  
8 available only to employees who notify the board of directors  
9 prior to April 1 of the fiscal year that they intend to retire  
10 not later than the start of the next following school calendar.  
11 The age at which employees shall be designated eligible for  
12 the program shall be at the discretion of the board. An  
13 employee retiring under [this section](#) may apply for a retirement  
14 allowance under [chapter 97B](#) or [chapter 294](#). The board may  
15 include in the district management levy an amount to pay the  
16 total estimated accumulated cost to the school district of  
17 the health or medical insurance coverage, bonus, or other  
18 incentives for employees fifty-five years of age or older who  
19 retire under [this section subsection](#).

20     2. The board of directors of a school district may adopt  
21 a program for student loan repayment to recruit new teachers.  
22 The board may include in the district management levy an amount  
23 to pay the total estimated accumulated cost to the school  
24 district of the student loan repayment program adopted under  
25 this subsection.

26     3. The board of directors of a school district shall  
27 discuss the adoption of the program for early retirement  
28 benefits provided in subsection 1 or the program for student  
29 loan repayment provided in subsection 2, as applicable, at  
30 a regular or special meeting prior to adopting the program.  
31 The board of directors of the school district shall provide  
32 sufficient time to receive public comment on the program. The  
33 board shall allow each interested member of the public to speak  
34 at the meeting regarding the program, but may impose a time  
35 limit on the amount of time a member of the public is allowed

1 to speak if the time limit is the same for each speaker and  
2 necessary due to the amount of people wishing to speak. The  
3 board of directors of a school district shall not adopt the  
4 program for early retirement benefits provided in subsection  
5 1 concurrently with the program for student loan repayment  
6 provided in subsection 2. The board of directors shall not  
7 adopt either the program for early retirement benefits provided  
8 in subsection 1 or the program for student loan repayment  
9 provided in subsection 2 within five years after adopting the  
10 other program.

11 Sec. 6. Section 298.4, subsection 1, paragraph e, Code 2022,  
12 is amended to read as follows:

13 e. To pay the cost of early retirement benefits to employees  
14 under section 279.46, subsection 1, or student loan repayment  
15 under section 279.46, subsection 2. A board of directors of a  
16 school district shall not expend the district management levy  
17 on the costs of both programs in the same fiscal year.

18 Sec. 7. APPLICABILITY. The following applies to grants  
19 awarded by the college student aid commission on or after July  
20 1, 2022, to initial applicants under the teach Iowa scholar  
21 program established pursuant to section 261.110:

22 The section of this Act amending section 261.110.

23 EXPLANATION

24 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with  
25 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

26 This bill relates to education, including eligibility for  
27 grants under the teach Iowa scholar program, licenses issued  
28 by the board of educational examiners, and the use of revenues  
29 from the district management levy.

30 The teach Iowa scholar program, administered by the  
31 college student aid commission, provides grants to certain  
32 high-caliber, full-time teachers in Iowa in amounts not  
33 to exceed \$4,000 annually or \$20,000 over five years. The  
34 bill provides that the total value of grants awarded under  
35 the program to applicants who are preparing to teach in a

1 school district shall be equally divided between applicants  
2 preparing to teach in a school district with less than or  
3 equal to 1,000 students and applicants preparing to teach in  
4 a school district with greater than 1,000 students. The bill  
5 authorizes the commission to award different amounts to each  
6 group of applicants if the amount requested by applicants of  
7 either group is less than the amount reserved for that group.  
8 The bill establishes that this provision applies to grants  
9 awarded by the commission on or after July 1, 2022, to initial  
10 applicants under the program.

11 Current law authorizes the board of educational examiners  
12 (BOEE) to issue a regional exchange teaching license to an  
13 applicant who has completed a teacher preparation program  
14 outside of the state and who is applying for the applicant's  
15 first Iowa teaching license if, among other requirements, the  
16 applicant is a resident of the state. The bill removes the  
17 requirement that such an applicant be a resident of this state  
18 if the applicant provides the BOEE with a copy of an offer of  
19 employment as a teacher from a school located in this state.

20 Current law requires the BOEE to adopt rules to provide  
21 for nontraditional preparation options for licensing persons  
22 who hold a bachelor's degree from an accredited college  
23 or university and who do not meet other requirements for  
24 licensure. The bill provides that the rules shall require  
25 the BOEE to issue a teacher intern license to a qualified  
26 applicant. The bill specifies the requirements that a  
27 qualified applicant must meet. The bill also provides that  
28 the rules shall require an applicant who has been granted a  
29 teacher intern license to meet certain specified requirements  
30 prior to applying for an initial teaching license. The bill  
31 requires the BOEE to allow an applicant who has completed those  
32 requirements to apply for an initial teaching license if the  
33 school that employed the licensee recommends that the licensee  
34 be allowed to apply for an initial teaching license.

35 The bill requires the BOEE to adopt rules that allow

1 an individual seeking a career and technical secondary  
2 authorization to apply, and if eligible, be issued the  
3 secondary authorization prior to accepting an offer of  
4 employment with a school.

5     Currently, Code section 279.46 authorizes the board of  
6 directors of a school district to adopt a program for early  
7 retirement benefits to encourage its employees to retire before  
8 the normal retirement date. The bill modifies Code section  
9 279.46 to also authorize the board of directors to adopt a  
10 program for student loan repayment to recruit new teachers.  
11 The bill requires the board of directors to discuss the  
12 adoption of the program for early retirement benefits or the  
13 program for student loan repayment, as applicable, at a regular  
14 or special meeting prior to adopting the program and allow for  
15 public comment. The bill prohibits the board of directors from  
16 adopting the program for early retirement benefits concurrently  
17 with the program for student loan repayment. The bill also  
18 prohibits the board of directors from adopting either the  
19 program for early retirement benefits or the program for  
20 student loan repayment within five years after adopting the  
21 other program.

22     The bill authorizes the board of directors to expend the  
23 district management levy to pay the costs of either the program  
24 for early retirement benefits or the program for student loan  
25 repayment. The bill prohibits the board of directors from  
26 expending the district management levy on the costs of both  
27 programs in the same fiscal year.